

House Republican Press Release

December 20, 2005
Press Office: 860-240-8700

Representative Frey Announces Grant To Repair Ridgefield Dam



State Representative John H. Frey, R-Ridgefield, announced the State Bond Commission has awarded \$5,000 to repair Woodcock Dam in Ridgefield. The Bond Commission made the award during its monthly meeting in Hartford this morning.

The funding is needed due to damage from heavy rains that fell October 7-15, 2005. Additional funds approved this morning will fund repairs to dams in Litchfield, Union and Somers, CT.

The local dam is adjacent to the Woodcock Nature Center. The 146-acre-property features numerous walking and hiking trails.

“The dam did receive some damage in the October storms,” said Rep. Frey, who serves as an Assistant Minority Leader. “If it was to fail, it would wash out the entrance road to the nature center and result in the loss of a pond that is part of the center’s programs. Today’s funding will not only protect the local environment but also helps ensure that this facility, which is a great educational resource for area schoolchildren, is not adversely impacted.”

Work on the dam is expected to be done in early 2006. Funds awarded today will also fund a statewide survey of the condition of the 240 state-owned dams. A consultant engineer will inspect the dams and determine the risks associated with each dam and the current condition of each dam. The engineer will prioritize the repair of the dams based on the potential damage and risks that would occur in the event of failure.